



European
middle
ages

The Middle Ages



Henry VIII



Marco Polo and Kublai Khan

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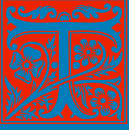

eudal ystem

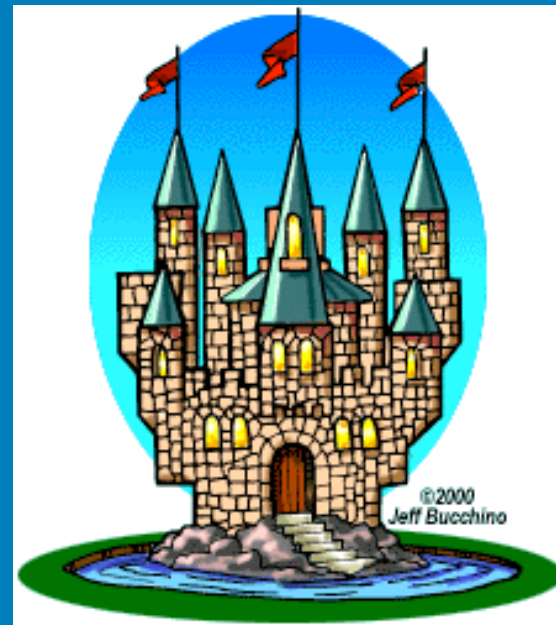
For safety and defense, people in the Middle Ages formed small communities around a central lord or master.



Most people lived on a manor, which consisted of the castle, the church, the village, and the surrounding farm land. Often there was a wall around the manor.



hese manors were isolated and were visited from time to time by peddlers, pilgrims on their way to the rusades, or soldiers from other fiefdoms



In this “feudal” system, the king awarded land grants or “fiefs” to his most important nobles, his barons, and his bishops, in return for their contribution of soldiers for the king’s armies.



At the low end of society were the peasants or “serfs”.

In exchange for living and working on his land, the lord offered his peasants protection.



serf plowing in the field

It was the serfs who sang sacred songs about their life and love. Many of these songs were not written down in the tradition of folk music.

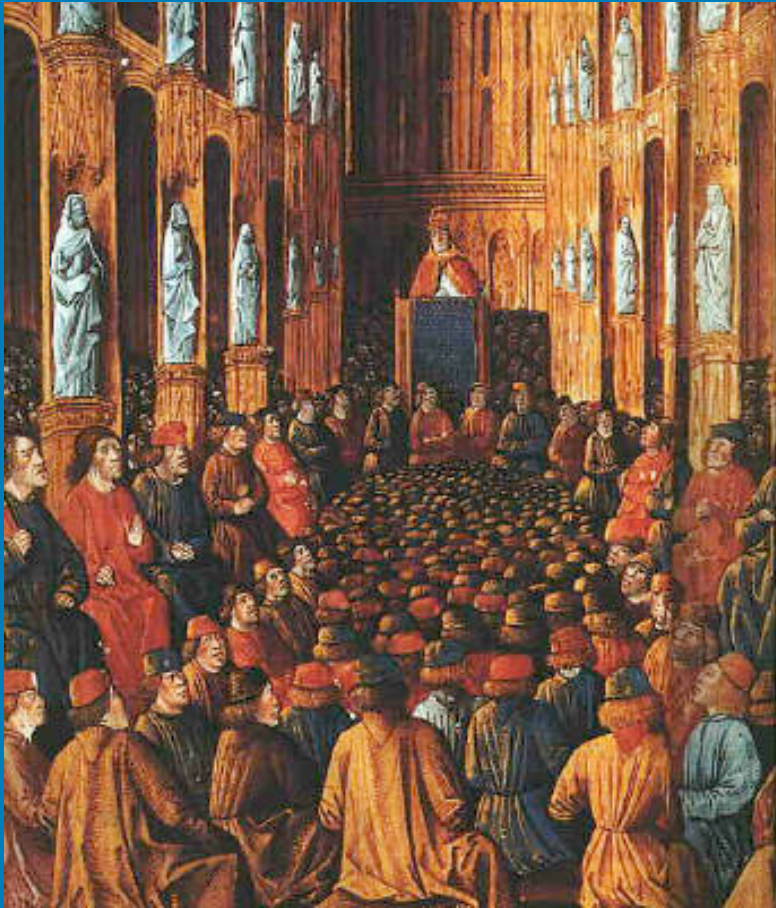


Review

- What is the Feudal System?
- What was a serf?
- Why did people live in Fiefdoms?
- What kind of sacred was there?

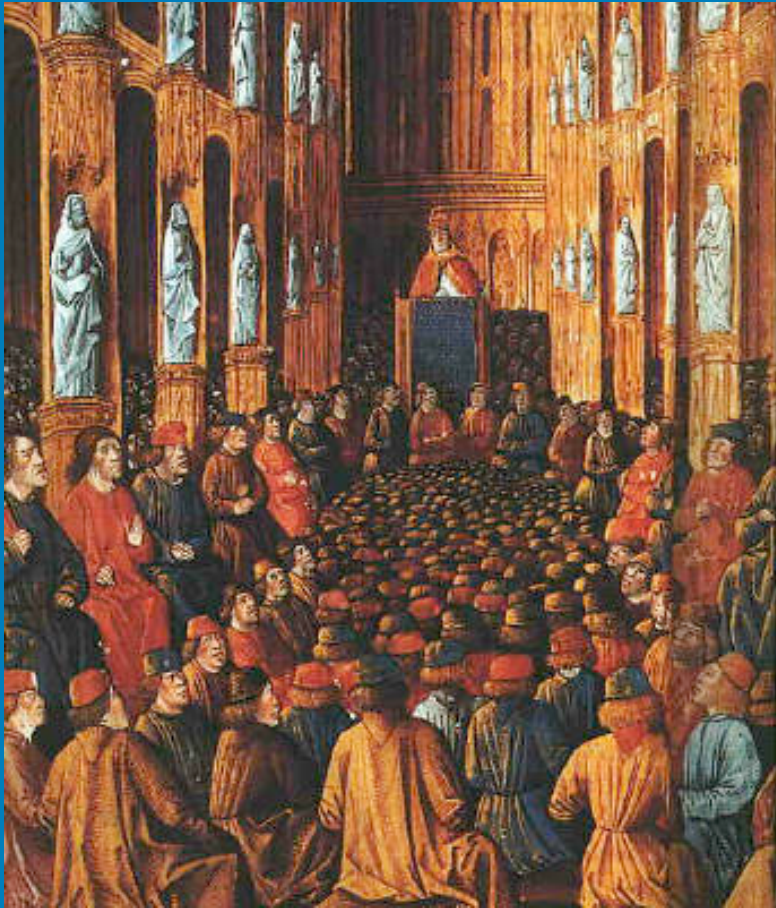


Crusades



The Crusades were Wars to retake the Holy Land—which included **Jerusalem** (where the death, resurrection and ascension into heaven of Jesus took place according to Christian theology) and **Antioch** (the first Christian city)—from the Muslims.

Crusades



The Pope promised the forgiveness of sin for anyone participating in the crusades.

There were 9 crusades in between 1095-1291

Crusades



During this time religious songs were written about war. They were written to inspire the soldiers and remind them that they were fighting a war for God

Review

- What were the Crusades?
- What is a religious war?
- Can you cite another religious war?
- What kind of music was written for the crusades?



Black Plague



Black Plague

What is it?

❖ Bubonic Plague

- ❖ A contagious, often fatal epidemic disease
 - ❖ transmitted from person to person or by the bite of fleas from an infected rodent, (rats)
 - ❖ It is characterized by chills, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and swollen glands.
- ❖ It killed 1/3 of the people in Europe

The Black Plague

- ❖ The Black Plague of the mid-fourteenth century resulted in the deaths of a third of the European population.
- ❖ The people were obsessed with the notion of death and the coming of the Last Judgment.

The Black Plague and the Flagellants

- ❖ Large groups of flagellants
 - ❖ (priests who punished themselves with whips) preached the coming of the Last Days and traveled from village to village.
- ❖ These groups thought that the plague was punishment from God



Flagellants going from village to village

The Black Plague

It was believed by some religious groups that other groups (particularly Jews) were poisoning wells to spread the disease

Folk songs like, “Ring Around the Rosy”, were sung during the time of the Black Plague



Review

- What was the black plague?
- How could someone get the disease?
- Were the songs happy or sad?
- Can you name a folk song from this era?

Music of the Middle Ages

- ❖ Sacred Music
 - ❖ Religious Music

- ❖ Secular Music
 - ❖ Non-religious Music

Music of the Middle Ages

- ❖ Sacred Music
 - ❖ Gregorian Chant
 - ❖ Named for Pope Gregory I
 - ❖ Also known as Plainsong
 - ❖ Simple melody sung in Latin
 - ❖ No harmony or instruments

Séq.
1.
V

Ictimae paschá-li láudes * ímmolent Christi-áni.

Agnus redémit óves : Chrístus ínnocens Pátri reconci-
li-ávit peccatóres. Mors et ví-ta du-éllo conflixére mirán-
do : dux vítae mórtu-us, régnat vívus. Díc nóbis Marí- a,
quid vidísti in ví- a? Sepúlcrum Chrísti vivéntis, et gló-
ri- am vídi resurgéntis : Angé-licos téstes, sudá-ri- um, et
véstes. Surréxit Chrístus spes mé- a : praecedet sú-os in Ga-
lilaé- am. Scímus Chrístum surrexísse a mórtu- is vere :
tu nóbis, víctor Rex, mi-se-ré-re. Amen. (Alle-lú-ia.)

Victimae Paschali Laudes

May you praise the Paschal Victim,
immolated for Christians.
The Lamb redeemed the sheep:
Christ, the innocent one,
has reconciled sinners to the Father.
A wonderful duel to behold,
as death and life struggle:
The Prince of life dead,
now reigns alive.

Tell us, Mary Magdalen,
what did you see in the way?
I saw the sepulchre of the living Christ,
and I saw the glory of the Resurrected one:
The Angelic witnesses,
the winding cloth, and His garments.
The risen Christ is my hope:
He will go before His own into Galilee.
We know Christ to have risen
truly from the dead:
And thou, victorious King,
have mercy on us.
Amen. Alleluia.

Music of the Middle Ages

❖ Secular Music

❖ Minstrel Music

- ❖ Sung by traveling musicians
- ❖ In the language of the people
- ❖ Usually accompanied by an instrument
- ❖ Usually faster than Church Music
- ❖ About Love, Life, or Chivalry

Music of the Middle Ages

❖ Instruments

- ❖ This is a picture of a vielle – a forerunner to the violin





Instruments from the Medieval Period